Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7516
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
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CONFIDENTIAL ACCRA 2806

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, SF, WA

SUBJ: DEMARCHE TO SOUTH AFRICA ON NAMIBA

REF: STATE 78517

1. IN MEETING APRIL 15, AND AFTER COORDINATING WITH MY COLLEAGUES FORM UK, FRANCE, CANADA AND TH FRG, I BRIEFED ERIC OTOO, SENIRO PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, ON OUR JOINT DEMARCHE TO PRIME MINISTER VORSTER ON NAMIBIA. (COMMISSIONER FELLI IS STILL AWAY.) I MADE ALL POINTS CONTAINED PARAS 1 AND 2 OF REFTEL, EMPHASINZING THAT OUR EFFORT REFLECTED A DETERMINATION TO BRING ABOUT PEACEFUL CHANGE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND OUR DESIRE TO COOPERATE WITH AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS TO ACHIEVE SHARED POLITICAL OBJECTIVES. I LEFT HIM A PAPER COVERING MAJOR POINTS.

2. OTOO NODDED HIS HEAD APPROVINGLY, SAID HE WAS GLAD TO RECEIVE BRIEFING AND ASKED WHAT CONFIDENTIAL

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VORSTER'S REACTION HAD BEEN. I SAID I HAD NO SPECIFIC REPORT ON HIS REACTION BUT BELIEVED IT WAS SAFE TO ASSUME THAT HE MUST HAVE BEEN LESS THAN PLEASED AT OUR DEMARCHE. THIS BROUGHT A BROAD SMILE TO OTOO'S FACE.

3. IN PRELIMINARY APRIL 14 MEETING WITH MY WESTERN

COLLEAGUES, WE AGREED THAT MUTUALLY SUPPORTING BUT SEPARATE REPRESENTATIONS TO GHANAIANS WOULD BE MORE PRODUCTIVE, WITH US MAKING PRIMARY EFFORT. IN NEXT FEW DAYS, BRITISH AND FRENCH WILL SEND LETTERS TO OTOO, WITH GERMANS AND CANADIANS PROBLY HANDLING IT ORALLY. MOST WILL BE SIMILAR TO BRITISH LETTER, TEXT OF WHICH FOLLOWS:

QUOTE I REFER TO THE RECENT APPROACH MADE BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO YOU ON THE SUBJECT OF THE JOINT DEMARCHE BY THE AMBASSADORS IN CAPE TOWN OF THE UNITED STATES, BRITAIN, FRANCE, CANADA AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN PRIME MINISTER ABOUT NAMIBIA.

I HAVE BEEN ASKED TO ASSOCIATE MYSELF WITH
AMBASSADOR SMITH'S APPROACH TO THE GOVERNMENT OF
GHANA, AND TO INFORM THE GOVERNMENT OF GHANA THAT
MY GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATES ITSELF ENTIRELY WITH THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IN ITS OBJECTIVE
OF ENGAGING SOUTH AFRICA IN INTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS
LOOKING TOWARDS THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTERNATIONALLY
ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION TO THE QUESTION OF NAMIBIA.
UNQUOTE.
SMITH

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NNN

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